



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-761

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Email [foi@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 12th February 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Histopathology services

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Note: our response below relates to North Midlands and Cheshire pathology services (RSUH, County, Mid Cheshire and East Cheshire Trusts), we cannot split out costs associated with UHNM alone as we are a network pathology service.**

**Q1 We are researching histology/ cellular pathology activity in NHS organisations and the use of locums and outsourcing to report these.**

**For the period April 1st to December 31st 2023, please provide the following information:**

**1. How many whole time equivalent histopathology consultants (as defined by being on the GMC specialist register for pathology) were employed by the authority at 31/12/2023.**

A1 See below:

16.5 WTE consultants in post  
5.0 FTE vacancies

**Q2 How many histology cases were reported in the following period, overall and by the following sub-specialties**

- dermatology
- gastro-intestinal
- urology
- gynaecology
- breast
- thoracic
- head and neck

- other
- total cases reported

A2 See below:

- dermatology: 13931
- gastro-intestinal: 14590
- urology: 3023
- gynaecology: 10373
- breast: 4717
- thoracic: 1178
- head and neck: 1919
- other: 6176
- total cases reported: 60515 (Histology cases)

Total Non-gynae cytology cases: 4610

**Q3 How many of the total cases given above were reported by a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs.**

- b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work.**
- c. locum consultants working for the authority**
- d. external reporting companies.**

**Please provide a total number of cases and the number reported by each of the following:**

- Unilabs
- HCA Laboratories including their subsidiary Backlogs
- Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited)
- Cellular Pathology Services Limited
- Diagnexia
- Digital Pathology Partners
- Cytel (including their subsidiary Pathognomics)
- Poundbury Cancer Institute
- Medica
- external reporting companies total

A3 See below:

- a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs. = 42160 Cases

b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work. = 8488 Cases

c. locum consultants working for the authority:  
5266 Cases

d. external reporting companies. Please provide a total number of cases and the number reported by each of the following:

- Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited): = 12951 Cases
- Cytel (including their subsidiary Pathognomics): = 324 Cases

**Q4 How much did the authority spend on each of the following during the period**

- a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs. (salary plus NI plus pension contribution)**
- b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work.**
- c. locum consultants working for the authority**
- d. external reporting companies.**

**Please provide a total spend and the spend with each of the following:**

- Unilabs
- HCA Laboratories including their subsidiary Backlogs
- Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited)
- Cellular Pathology Services Limited
- Diagnexia
- Digital Pathology Partners
- Cytel (including their subsidiary Pathognomics)
- Poundbury Cancer Institute
- Medica
- external reporting companies total

**A4 See below:**

a. consultants (or other medical staff) employed by the authority during their contract Programmed Activities or PAs. (salary plus NI plus pension contribution)

£1,827,760.75

b. consultants employed by the authority, being paid additional amounts over and above their salary for additional work. £325,212.09

c. locum consultants working for the authority £183,319.94

d. external reporting companies. Please provide a total spend and the spend with each of the following:

- Source LD Path (previously Source Bioscience, and LD Path limited): £1,305,140.00
- Cytel (including their subsidiary Pathognomics): £34973.00

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records